

Minutes of the Ad hoc Safety Committee  
Regional School District 14 [www.ctreg.org](http://www.ctreg.org)  
November 22, 2013

A meeting of the Ad hoc Safety Committee was held on Friday, November 22, 2013 in the Conference Room of the Central Office, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present were Superintendent Jody Ian Goeler, Committee Chair Maryanne Van Aken, and committee members Mike Devine, Mike Molzon, Paul Ciotti, Sgt. Joe Roden, and Wayne McAllister. Also present, Deb DeSorbo, Heather Foster Bill Butterly and BoE clerk Deb Carlton. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Van Aken at 12:05 pm.

The committee discussed the following:

**Phone update:** all phones are installed and working; minor logistics still needed, verification of extensions, etc. First digit denotes the location. An alert notification system will be used for faster response. If 911 is dialed, all phones can be set up to beep. Also, incoming calls, even if transferred, show who caller is. Phase II will involve phones in classrooms, with priority for schools without phones currently in classrooms. Cell boosters are still a concern in areas with weak cell service. An accurate number of classroom phones needed is being tallied. Concern about lack of phones when power is lost was raised.

**Walkie-talkies for MES and WMS:** the MES PTO is financing them for MES. About 6 are needed for WMS at about \$220 each. Mr. McAllister is looking to purchase immediately. The ones we have are periodically tuned up, and we need to get teachers to carry them consistently.

**Background checks:** Ms. Van Aken, Mr. McAllister and Sgt. Roden viewed a webinar by LexisNexis yesterday and saw features of the process and data bases to which they have access. Turnaround time for results seems almost instantaneous. Sgt. Roden will check with Park and Rec, which currently uses checks that run \$8 each and take 48 hrs. for results, to see if combining with the towns is practical. The more people involved in administering the system, the more expensive it is. Several felt it best to have the PD administer it and this will be discussed with the selectmen.

**MES Safety Meeting Recap:** Ms. Van Aken felt it was a good meeting with good questions, but a low turnout. With the 12/14 anniversary approaching, it is important that the community know we are tighter than we were last year, and helps educate the public that we are good stewards of their tax dollars. Sgt. Roden suggested videotaping the NHS safety meeting for rebroadcast. As to the financial summary sheet, the group agreed that the projects and status only should be reported. For projects done this year, they are no longer budgetary concerns. For those planned for next year, it is not necessary to give estimated figures so early in the process. It is more important to make sure the community knows we are several steps ahead in most safety categories, and to let them know what the SROs are doing in terms of interacting with and helping students. Documenting ways they have been successful and opportunities they have had for community outreach was also seen as important.

**Emergency Operations Plan Update:** Sgt. Roden has gone over the plan with Janet Morgan, who streamlined much of it and it should be ready soon. The plan will mirror what is happening in the schools.

Ms. Van Aken asked for access swipe cards for BoE members, for evening meetings. Sgt. Roden shared information on safety products that block window panels next to classroom doors.

The group plans to continue meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of the month at noon.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Maryanne Van Aken*

Maryanne Van Aken  
Chair, Ad hoc Safety Committee  
Regional School District 14 Board of Education